



# University of Hawaii at Manoa

**Environmental Center**  
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Office of the Director

February 23, 1982

RP:0021

Lt. Col. Kenneth E. Sprague  
Corps of Engineers  
Department of the Army  
U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu  
Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858

Dear Lt. Col. Sprague:

PODCO-O 1613-S  
Proposed Fill of Lot 2 at Kupeke Fishpond  
Kupeke, Molokai

We have briefly reviewed the above city Public Notice with the assistance of Matthew Spriggs, Anthropology; David Peterson and Jacquelin Miller, Environmental Center.

We would agree that the proposed discharge of fill material into the wetland area adjacent to Kupeke Fishpond would not be expected to significantly impact endangered or threatened wildlife, plants or their critical habitat. However, we do have concerns as to the potential impact of this fill on cultural resources in the area. We would expect that any natural wetland area adjacent to a known fishpond could be expected to have some archaeological significance. The wetland may be part of the old fishpond, part of a smaller adjacent pond, or have been used for wetland taro agriculture. For any of these cases, there may be significant subsurface cultural materials present.

We would recommend that sub-surface testing of the area to be filled, be conducted prior to granting permission to discharge fill material into the wetland.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this notice.

Yours truly,

Doak C. Cox  
Director

cc: Matthew Spriggs  
David Peterson  
Jacquelin Miller